

AMENDED IN SENATE SEPTEMBER 2, 2009

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 31, 2009

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009–10 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1385

Introduced by Assembly Member Miller

February 27, 2009

An act to amend Section 25258 of the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1385, as amended, Miller. Vehicles: authorized emergency vehicles: blue warning lights.

Existing law allows an authorized emergency vehicle used by a peace officer, as defined, in the performance of his or her duties to display a steady or flashing blue warning light visible from the front, sides, or rear of the vehicle.

This bill would expand the definition of peace officer for purposes of that provision to include ~~certain~~ members of an arson-investigating unit, ~~members of a fire department or fire protection agency, voluntary fire wardens as designated by the Director of Forestry and Fire Protection, and firefighters/security guards designated by the Military Department,~~ *regularly paid and employed in that capacity, of a fire department or fire protection agency of a county, city, city and county, district, or the state, if the primary duty of these peace officers is the detection and apprehension of persons who have violated any fire law or committed insurance fraud.*

The bill would also limit the authorization to display a steady or flashing blue warning light to authorized emergency vehicles used by peace officers in accordance with the above provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 25258 of the Vehicle Code is amended
2 to read:
3 25258. (a) An authorized emergency vehicle operating under
4 the conditions specified in Section 21055 may display a flashing
5 white light from a gaseous discharge lamp designed and used for
6 the purpose of controlling official traffic control signals.
7 (b) An authorized emergency vehicle used by a peace officer,
8 as defined in Section 830.1 of, subdivision (a), (b), (c), (d), (e),
9 (f), (g), or (i) of Section 830.2 of, subdivision (b) of Section 830.31
10 of, subdivision (a) or (b) of Section 830.32 of, Section 830.33 of,
11 subdivision (a) of Section 830.36 of, *subdivision (a) of* Section
12 830.37 of, subdivision (a) of Section 830.4 of, or Section 830.6
13 of, the Penal Code, in the performance of the peace officer's duties,
14 may, in addition, display a steady or flashing blue warning light
15 visible from the front, sides, or rear of the vehicle.
16 (c) *Except as provided in subdivision (b), a vehicle shall not*
17 *display a steady or flashing blue warning light.*
18 ~~(e)~~
19 (d) Except as provided in subdivision (a), a vehicle shall not be
20 equipped with a device that emits any illumination or radiation
21 that is designed or used for the purpose of controlling official
22 traffic control signals.